



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
CHILDREN'S ADMINISTRATION
PO Box 45040 • Olympia WA • 98504-5040

October 12, 2011

Dear Foster Parents and Relative Caregivers:

**RE: QUESTIONS, CONCERNS ABOUT CHILDREN'S ADMINISTRATION
SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET REDUCTION OPTIONS**

I am writing to respond to questions from foster parents through the statewide foster parent listserv and at the town hall meetings held around the state about the Children's Administration supplemental budget reduction options.

The budget reduction options submitted by the Children's Administration are not decisions. There were submitted to the Governor for her consideration. These must still be presented to and adopted by the legislature before being signed into law by the Governor.

There were three questions posted on the foster parent listserv that I will respond to:

- 1) Will cuts affect adoption support?
- 2) Why are we cutting foster care?
- 3) Are we eliminating foster care with private child placing agencies (CPAs)?

The current budget reduction options do **NOT** include any reductions to foster care reimbursement rates, or to Adoption Support payments. We are not eliminating Child Placing Agency foster care. The budget reduction options include a 10 percent reduction to case management services while maintaining foster care supports for CPAs, to focus efforts on serving children with the most complex needs in community-based family settings.

Children's Administration staff and I will continue to make sure you are informed and have the opportunity to share your ideas and have your questions answered. Any suggestions made regarding budget reductions have been and will be passed along for Department-wide consideration at ASKDSHS@WA.GOV

Thank you for opening your heart and your home to Washington children.

Sincerely,

Denise Revels Robinson, Assistant Secretary
Children's Administration